

Smiling corrupt go-between to do so. The answer continues:  
MAYOR NAMES ALDERMEN CONCERNED.

"On information and belief, one of the go-betweens was named Curtis, another Benjamin Straus and others Albert J. Berwin, Charles Buckman, Abraham Wirtenberg, Dr. William Shapiro, one Halprin, Michael Kink, one Bernhardt and one Cruise. On information and belief, the Aldermen who pursued this method were Joseph Schuch, Henry Volkmann, Louis Wendell Jr., who required applicants to join a political club in his district; Herbst, who required licensees to pay a friend before giving his consent; Frederick W. Richter, who required that a third person be paid a certain sum before giving his consent and required a sum for himself before renewing; and John J. McCann, who required that applicants be members of a certain political association and pay dues as a condition of his consent.

"Another, Noonan, who refused his consent unless applicants for licenses joined a certain political club."  
The first case cited against Curran follows, the answer reading:  
"On information and belief, prior to Sept. 3, 1912, one Fried attempted to open a stand at the southeast corner of sixth avenue and Twenty-fifth street; the plaintiff conducted negotiations with reference to opening of said stand and through the medium of one Mullany, and handed a man accompanying Mullany an application, with his consent for the stand in question, the name of the licensee being left blank. Subsequently Fried's name was filled in and the license issued to him."

Regarding the issuing and renewal of licenses, the Mayor continues: "Money was paid to Richter, money was paid to King, money was demanded by Herbst, money was paid to Wirtenberg, money was paid to McCann, money was paid to Volkmann and other individuals, mentioned as go-betweens were, in the common acceptance of the term, 'ward heelers,' who could have secured the license for any person, and the Mayor, in his capacity as a member of the Board of Aldermen, or with any other member of the board."

The Mayor sets up three defenses. First he denies each and every allegation of Alderman Curran's complaint as to Curran's "good name, fame and standing in the community," except that he wrote the alleged libelous letter and that it was published in the regular course of business; second, the Mayor justifies the contents of his letter as being in mitigation of damages, if there are any, and pleads all the facts in his second answer as a suitable defense.

MAYOR DECLARES CURRAN WAS "UNTRUTHFUL."

Concluding the second defense, the Mayor declares that the many statements made by Alderman Curran as to what took place in the Mayor's office, prior to the Aldermen selecting the investigating committee, were in most part false. The Mayor charges Mr. Curran caused to be published in various newspapers on July 27, 1912, statements with regard to a visit to the Mayor's office, which "were far from being truthful." In this interview, Mr. Curran stated he had called on the Mayor to ask him to call a special meeting of the Board to investigate the Police Department. The Mayor quotes the statement, which states that Alderman Curran "was doing this to embarrass me in my attempts to clear up the situation." This statement and the one attributed to the Mayor in which he was reported to have stated that the Aldermen would "stultify themselves if they undertook such an investigation," Mr. Gaynor says, "were in fact false."

The Mayor further charges that the Aldermen "sought by such publications to give the public at large an erroneous impression of the attitude of the Mayor." Regarding Mr. Curran's statement that while he was in the Mayor's office the latter pointed to a basket of papers and stated that he had an affidavit that a member of the Board of Aldermen had taken a \$500 bribe to allow a boot-black stand to be put up in his district, the Mayor states:

AFFIDAVITS BACK HIM UP, MAYOR SAYS.

"On information and belief this statement is very far from being the truth, in that it did not contain all that was said and in that it neglected to state that the defendant called to the attention of the plaintiff at that time the fact that certain evidence was in the possession of the Mayor's office relating to himself, the plaintiff, and directly connected with the licensing of news stands and the like in his district."  
"Going into his partial defense, mitigation of damages, the Mayor gives as the sources of his information 'persons of standing in the various city departments, government officials and persons, directly interested in the matters in hand' and the presidents of organizations having a personal interest in such matters."

The Mayor further states that he believed the information acquired by him was trustworthy and, "relying thereon, he wrote the letter." Each and every material fact stated in the letter, he declares, is backed by sworn testimony or verified affidavits or by reports of city officials. The Mayor finally states that the letter to the Aldermen was given out because the Aldermen had given to the press a letter addressed to the Mayor.

Concluding his two-page defense of printed matter, the Mayor says that "in this writing and publishing, the defendant felt that he was performing a public duty and that it was his right to answer in a public way a letter written by the plaintiff, which had been made public by the plaintiff."

The Mayor asks that Alderman Curran's complaint be dismissed by the Court, that a verdict be returned for the Mayor and the Aldermen be taxed with the costs in the action.  
OFFERS HONORARY IF CHARGE IS PROVED.

Alderman Louis Wendell Jr., when informed of the character of the Mayor's answer to the Curran suit for libel, said: "Why, that whole matter was thrashed out long ago and nothing came of it at all. Political enemies then got busy with that old story and have apparently rolled up the waters now. I cannot understand how the Mayor would take cognizance of the matter, under the conditions. No, I do not intend to sue the Mayor for libeling me. I have been re-elected Alderman by an increase of 700 and that is an indication how the people of my district regard me. I do not need the bolster of a libel suit to impress my constituents with my decency."

Alderman Francis P. Kenney said: "I do not understand why I should be dragged into this matter by the Mayor. I have done nothing, in the many years I have been connected with the Board, to warrant using my name in this manner. However, I see the Mayor spells the name Kenney. Perhaps he may intend his statement for me, but I cannot understand why."

## AUSTRIA SEIZES SERBIAN STEAMER WITH SUPPLIES

Halts Vessel With Flour for Army, Headed for Disputed Port on Adriatic.

GREECE DARES ITALY.

Captures Vessel of King Emmanuel Off Albanian Coast—War Rumbles Still Heard.

BEIGRADE, Dec. 9.—On the heels of the semi-official information that Serbia would abandon her project of holding an Adriatic seaport, and would leave the settlement of her differences with Austria-Hungary to the coming conference of the powers, excitement was raised to fever heat again today by the report that Austria had stopped a boat loaded with Serbian supplies.

It was said that the Austrian authorities had stopped the steamer Hecdech at Fiume and had seized 800 tons of the flour that was destined for the Serbian army occupying Durazzo. It was said that Austria-Hungary intended to convert the flour to the use of her own army.

A dispatch from Corfu, in the Ionians, said that the Greek cruiser Macedonia had seized an Italian vessel which was taking on Albanian insurgents and stores off Valona.

The accumulation of Austrian troops on the Serbian frontier and the provocative language of the Viennese newspapers have led to renewed bitter feeling in Serbia.

The newspaper Pravda, voicing the prevailing irritation, says: "If Austria desires war with Serbia let it come. It will be the most bitter fight in history. Every Serbian man and woman, young or old, will take part in it and Austria will have to exterminate the entire Serbian nation before conquering it."

Many Serbians visiting Austria-Hungarian frontier towns on business have been arrested on charges of spying. The Serbian government has protested to the Austro-Hungarian authorities.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—Preparations today for the peace conference and ambassadorial meeting next Friday went on apace, and the diplomats professed not to be alarmed by the rumors of desultory fighting in the Near East. It was considered, too, that the reported war-like actions of Austria-Hungary and Serbia were more for effect than in contemplation of actual hostilities.

GREECE STILL DELAYS SIGNING OF ARMISTICE.

A despatch from Cetinje said that the war still was on in northern Albania, because the Turkish Governor of Scutari refused to accept as genuine the communication brought to him telling of the signing of an armistice, and he fired upon the Montenegrin lieutenant who acted as emissary.

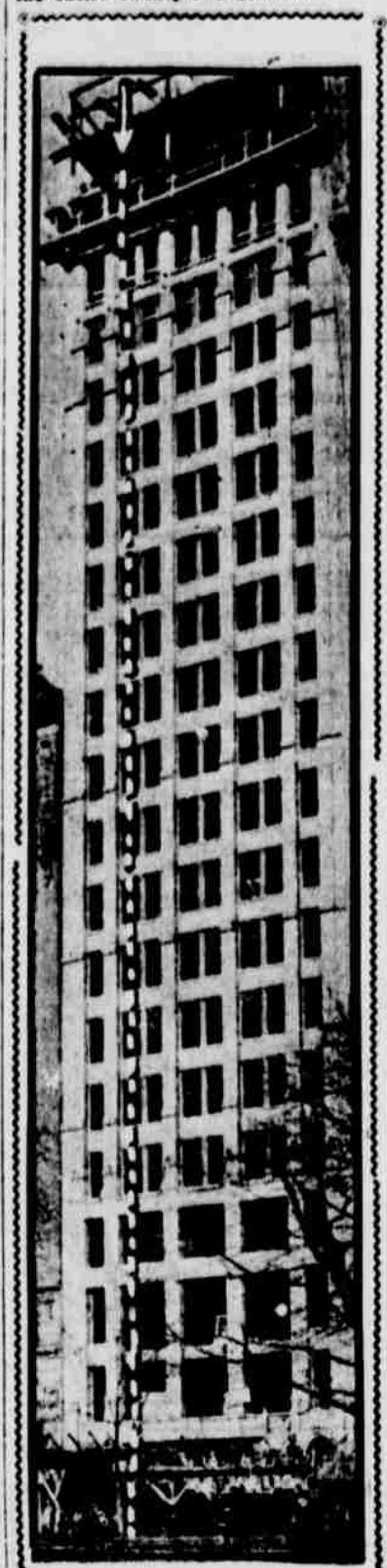
The Greek gunboats were said to still be off the Straits, where they were sighted Saturday, but no act of hostility on their part was reported.

Turkish reinforcements from Asia Minor still were arriving in Gallipoli, and the Turkish cavalry and artillery that had been engaged in the war with Italy today embarked at Tripoli for Gallipoli, but these movements were not regarded as signifying that Turkey planned to do anything in violation of the protocol of Baghiche.

Greece had not signed the armistice early today, but there were confident assurances from both Athens and Constantinople that she would become a signatory before the opening of the London negotiations.

## DIAGRAM SHOWING HOW A WORKMAN FELL 22 STORIES.

Wrecked while climbing on a hot boiler and plunged down inside the structure the entire twenty-two stories.



## GAMBLERS QUIT AS POLICE SCREW LID DOWN TIGHT

(Continued from First Page.)

ing with his friends Charley White, the referee, and Willie Kook, was arrested, as were the others, and charged with disorderly conduct. Magistrate Breen discharged the trio.

Inspector Dwyer has arrested more than three score men found standing upon the sidewalks in and around premises known as gambling houses. All have been charged with disorderly conduct. When this crusade against standees was at its height, the gamblers began to retreat into two well known lobster palaces, one on Broadway and one in Sixth avenue.

The inspector immediately notified the proprietors of these restaurants that they were liable to prosecution under the Penal Code for housing "gamblers and other disorderly persons," with the result that the refugees were refused drinks at the bar and food at the tables.

The following "poker clubs" now being watched night and day by uniformed policemen no longer do business, and are to all intents and purposes tightly closed:

The Attic, West Forty-second street. The Lyceum, West Forty-fifth street. The Ansonia, West Forty-fourth street. Bridge Webster's, West Forty-fifth street. The Muscogee, West Forty-fifth street. The Beverly, West Sixty-fifth street. Rachael Braun's, West Forty-third street.

It was in tightening down upon these poker clubs that Inspector Dwyer found his greatest difficulty, for a recent decision of the Court of Appeals held that a man who occasionally played poker was not a common gambler. The only way to make a prosecution was to get evidence that there was a "kitty" which went to the benefit of some individual, and to this end Inspector Dwyer began listing the players, which proved to be a most vexatious proceeding in many instances, but quite salutary in effect.

Announcement in The Evening World some weeks ago that Inspector Dwyer was going to have the citizens who frequented these poker clubs followed to their homes, if necessary, to get their true names, caused an immediate falling off of players, and a hundred bold spirits who went to the poker houses in spite of the warnings, were followed up and listed. In the majority of cases one experience was sufficient, and they did not return upon succeeding nights.

## DYNAMITE PLOT IN STRIKE HERE DENIED AT TRIAL

Labor Leader Says He Believed Money Trust Probers Told by Baltimore Financier of Competitive Methods.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 9.—Assaults committed during the ironworkers' strike were investigated by the Government in the cross-examination of Patrick F. Farrell, New York, a defendant, at the "dynamite conspiracy" trial today. Out of \$10,000 contributed by the International Union to sustain the strike in New York, Farrell admitted he furnished bonds for and paid the fines of union men.

Sixty assaults in 1906, in which bottles of ammonia or revolvers were used as weapons and in which one man was thrown into the river and a policeman who attempted to quell a riot was killed, were charged by the Government as being part of a "reign of terror" which preceded a general use of dynamite. The strike never has been called off.

Farrell is charged, as an executive board member of the International union, with appropriating money to enable J. J. McNamara to maintain a "dynamite crew."

Asked about the wreck of a drawbridge at Pelham, N. Y., in February, 1906, when the draw fell into the bay, Farrell said he had written to McNamara that "the high wind" had blown the work down.

"Was 'the high wind' a term used to designate depredations against non-union work?" asked James W. Noel, for the Government.

"It was not. We believed the Pelham job fell apart because of incompetent workmen," said Farrell.

Farrell said he knew funds of the union were expended for which no accounting was made, but he did not know what the money was spent for. He denied all knowledge of McNamara's purchase of explosives.

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## BANK FREEZE OUT BY CLEARING HOUSE STOPS RATE CLASH

Money Trust Probers Told by Baltimore Financier of Competitive Methods.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—A general freeze of the clearing house system of banking and a decided stand against Government regulation of clearing houses were made today by Waldo Newcomer, Manager of the Baltimore Clearing House, before the House Money Trust Investigating Committee.

The committee took up the clearing house situation in Baltimore. Representatives of two banks, which had been refused conditional membership in the Association, appeared. Manager Newcomer explained that the banks were not admitted because as conditional members they would not be bound by the rules of the Association as to out of town check exchange charges and other rates and would be in a position to compete at an advantage with the other members of the association bound by the rules.

In a prolonged discussion with Samuel Utermeyer, counsel for the committee, Mr. Newcomer declared that clearing houses throughout the country were beneficial institutions, and that any attempt at Government regulation would hamper their efforts.

MONEY PROBERS HIT BY BILL OF LINDBERGH.

Hitting at members of the committees of both Houses of Congress investigating the "Money Trust," Representative Lindbergh (Republican, of Minnesota) today submitted a joint resolution requiring Senators and Congressmen to file a statement of their financial interests or affiliations with any banking, loaning or brokerage business. Lindbergh was author of the original Money Trust probe resolution.

The sagacity with which members of the Banking and Currency Committee sought the control of the money trust investigations and much of the support they obtained in securing it was due to the fact that most of the committee and many other Congressmen are bankers or bank attorneys."

The resolution specifically states the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Banking and currency have membership mostly made up of bankers, lawyers and "controlled" by those directly, personally and financially interested in that class of legislation and that "to a greater or less extent many other Senators and Representatives are similarly interested."

The first witness at the Money Trust inquiry today was William W. Cloud, President of the State Bank of Maryland. Mr. Cloud said his bank had applied for clearing house privileges as a member of the Baltimore Clearing House but desired to clear through another bank that was.

"Does the Baltimore Clearing House prescribe rules which prevent a bank making its own price for exchange on out-of-town checks?" asked Mr. Utermeyer.

"Yes, it amounts to that," answered Mr. Cloud.

"But that is throttling competition, isn't it?"

"Well, I wouldn't say throttling," said the witness.

John R. Bland, President of the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, followed Mr. Cloud on the stand. Mr. Bland said his company had sought in vain to secure the privilege of clearing out of town checks through its banks of deposit, which were members of the association, or to secure full membership in the association, but within the last few weeks, however, he had been given to understand that arrangements

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## Liner Mauretania Is Safe, Says Wireless Message

QUEENSTOWN, Ireland, Dec. 9.—A wireless message from the Mauretania, despatched at noon today, 570 miles west of this port, said: "All well."

Reports that the Cunard liner Mauretania, on her way to New York from Liverpool and Queenstown, had met with a serious mishap were discredited by the local agents of the Cunard line today. They said they were in receipt of information that the Mauretania, which left Queenstown at 10.55 o'clock yesterday morning, had been reached by wireless and that a denial that any accident had been encountered had been received.

## NOTED ENGLISH ACTOR HERE FOR FIRST TIME IN SIXTEEN YEARS.



Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree of His Majesty's Theatre, London, began his first visit to the United States in sixteen years today, when he arrived on the Cunard liner, Sir Herbert explains that for the first time in many years there is a play running at his theatre without needing him in its cast, and so successfully that he has been able to set away for nearly a month. He will remain here at the Ritz Carlton for eight days.

The British actor-manager is here for his purpose of consulting with the directors of the Century Theatre, formerly the New Theatre. It is said that Sir Beerbohm Tree will assume charge of the Century next season.

were being made by the Clearing House to "take care" of the trust companies. As a result of the agitation of this committee your object has been accomplished," suggested Mr. Utermeyer.

Eugene Levering, President of the National Bank of Commerce of Baltimore, and Chairman of the Clearing House Executive Committee, produced the constitution and rules of the Baltimore Clearing House.

Waldo Newcomer, manager of the Baltimore Clearing House, under questioning by Mr. Utermeyer explained that the clearing house had decided that no more banks were to be admitted to clearing house privileges without submitting to the rules of the clearing house.

"If they were thus admitted," he said, "they might proceed by uncooperative methods to cut rates of exchange."

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## DEAD IN COTTAGE WITH A WOMAN HE CALLED HIS BRIDE

Indications Point to Murder and Suicide by Contractor of South Orange.

SWARTWOOD LAKE, N. J., Dec. 9.—In separate rooms of a cottage at Swartwood Lake near the outlet the bodies of Ludwig Palmer, a South Orange contractor, and a woman about forty-five years old whom he had two days before introduced as his wife were found today.

There are many indications that Palmer had murdered the woman who has not yet been identified and had then walked into the next room and killed himself. Palmer and his companion had evidently been dead for twenty-four hours. Palmer was about forty-five years old and had a wife and six children living in South Orange.

ACCIDENT—NOT A MURDER.

Investigation by Detectives Flynn and Brooker of Capt. Price's Bronx staff, disposed this afternoon of what had loomed up in the morning as a murder mystery. It was the case of a man found dead in a dry cesspool in Sheridan avenue, near One Hundred and Sixty-fifth street.

The man, name unknown, was identified as a watchman who had been guarding some contractor's supplies on a vacant lot a block away.

Coroner's Physician Hageman reported to Coroner Healy that the man had been seized with a hemorrhage and was walking for assistance through a vacant lot when he fell into the abandoned cesspool and cut his head on a drain pipe. The unidentified principal in the tragedy was found to have been poorly nourished.

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## ALMOST BESIDE HIMSELF

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Having been driven almost frantic with itching, burning eczema for sixteen years, grateful for relief caused Mr. Henry Bowden of Litchfield, N. Y., to write this letter for the benefit of others who suffer in the same way. He says: "I have been troubled with eczema for the past eighteen years and have suffered a great deal with such terrible itching and burning that at times I have been almost beside myself. I have tried various eczema remedies, but none of them helped me. I saw Saxo Salve advertised, so I bought a tube. The first application relieved the burning and itching and now I want to tell you and you may use this letter for the benefit of others—that Saxo Salve has brought me relief from Eczema after all other remedies have failed. If you have eczema or any other form of skin trouble, even though you may have tried other eczema remedies and failed to get relief, we guarantee Saxo Salve will benefit you or give back your money."

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